

**CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL SESSION  
MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2009  
6:00P.M.**

Council President Shivers called the meeting to order at 6:02p.m.

**Present:** Councilmember Latasha Gatling (EXCUSED), Mayor Grant (EXCUSED), Councilmember Darrell Hardy (ABSENT), Councilmember Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gerald Raynor, Sr., Councilmember Brian Shivers and Councilmember Elenora Simms, Councilmember Reveral Yeargin (6:42p.m.)

Staff: Robert Ashton, Acting City Administrator, Dashaun Lanham, City Clerk and Darlinda Sanders, Administrative Assistant

Agenda – It was moved by Councilmember Simms and seconded by Councilmember Porter to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

**PRESENTATION:**

Steve Proctor-GS Proctor & Associates had forwarded the contract to the City Council on Friday, July 31, 2009. He has request coming now for Bond Bill. He would like to have a retreat with the City Council, state and local level to come together and discuss your legislative ideas. Councilman Porter stated that he is interested in the City partnering with GS Proctor & Associates again. However, he is interested in getting information on the Federal level. Mr. Proctor stated that he will have the Congressional staff, which has assisted him with going after some grants federally as the (federal) have thirteen budgets. The county is suffering right now, as they are laying people off. You may be able to get some community development block grant monies. Councilman Porter mentioned that he met Bill Strickland from Pittsburgh. Steve stated that he represented the University of Maryland and he had gotten them \$1Million dollars from the Perdue Foundation.

Councilman Shivers asked Mr. Proctor to state what GS Proctor has to offer, as we have a new engagement and newly elected Council person. We want to put together the Council desires for the City. Currently we are focused on the John E. Feggans Center. Steve stated that we are in the lobbying business and we ranked number five (5) in the Washington Post. We lobby for you on the State, and Federal Level. We get together and come up with our priorities. When we come

together, it brings clarity of my marching orders. Councilman Shivers stated that when we come to the table we can know what is that we are doing, Steve stated that their grant writer will participate in the retreat. We go after partnership and approach families or individuals that can provide the amount of monies needed. Steve stated that he would like to have some type of agreement so we can meet in early September. It will be a collaborative effort with the surrounding municipalities. Some of the grants are more beneficial as a collaborative effort, such as crime related grants. Steve will arrange a meeting with the County, state and congressional staff for September. Councilman Shivers asked the Council if September will be conducive with their schedules. Councilmember Simms stated that we need to speak with our other colleagues before we commit to a date. Mr. Proctor will contact Mrs. Lanham with the available date in September.

### **Community Legacy Collaboration Agreement-**

Robert Ashton reported that the City did get our Community Legacy Agreement Application submitted on time to go after the \$100,000 for an energy efficient green initiative.

Councilmember Gatling was conference in by telephone at 6:26p.m.

Ms. Sanders stated that she and Robert Ashton attended the Community Legacy training on July 10, 2009 and Donna Grisgby had approached Darlinda about partnering with the City, SPCDC and WACIF, at which she informed Mr. Ashton, and he said he needed to speak with the Council. When the meeting was set up only Ms. Barnes attended with the MOU. She contacted Donna Grisgby regarding the \$200,000 that was mentioned in the MOU. She explained that the amount shouldn't have been listed in the MOU as the monies were previously received. She further stated that attorney could mark up the agreement and forward his changes to her. Ms. Sanders stated that she received everything from WACIF, but not SPCDC and Ms. Barnes stated that she submitted the documents to Mrs. Lanham, and what she forwarded to the Mrs. Lanham was the Letter of Intent. Mrs. Sanders stated that she requested the application from Ms. Barnes to include in the application as the collaborative effort.

Councilmember Gatling stated that she doesn't feel the City had made enough attempt in contacting the SPCDC, and WACIF. She said that she disagree with the statement "that there isn't enough time to complete". We know that the Community Legacy grant comes up every year, and we should be planning in advance. We should have sent e-mails and telephone calls too.

Councilman Raynor stated that more than one person has dropped the ball considering they didn't show up for the meeting. According to the document the project for the city wasn't prepared. Mrs. Sanders stated that the grant was prepared and submitted.

Councilman Shivers stated that what can we do to revise or amend the grant program? Mr. Ashton stated that we can amend upon approval of the grant, and we need to request a program revision. Ms. Sanders said we need to get a consultant to expend the grant. It is her understanding that the funding was in Economic Development.

Councilmember Gatling stated it doesn't make sense to apply for grant monies and don't have plan in advance to implement the grant dollars upon being awarded. We need to know in advance what we are going to do. We are spending more money to spend grant money? That really doesn't make sense.

Councilman Shivers stated that when we apply for the grant we need to know how we are going to implement the grant. Ms. Sanders stated that the grant was \$110,000 and the \$10,000 was for Administrative cost. What are we going to do with this grant? Mr. Ashton stated that we will identify ten (10) homes in the City of Seat Pleasant. We need to market the grant and get a committee to identify the homes. Ms. Sanders stated that we need to have something in place such as the consultant or director to manage the project. The burden comes on the finance department to allocate the monies outside of the grant money. If we hired a consultant what will we tell them to do? We will need to do an RFP, and they can be over \$10,000.00 the difference will come from the City. Ms. Sanders stated that we need to have a master plan as it will spell out what grants, priorities for the City. She stated it is the key component for the city and we are shooting in the blind.

Councilmember Simms stated that the SPCDC has stated that they have identified ten (10) homes in the City to do some work. Can we request the SPCDC to provide us with the information on their leg work on these homes? Councilman Yeargin stated that we can ask them one time in a formal letter to provide us with the information.

Councilman Yeargin asked how long has Mr. Ashton known about the application? Mr. Ashton stated that he got the document on Monday, July 27, 2009 and he

presented it to the Council on Tuesday, July 28, 2009. Councilman Shivers stated that Mr. Ashton will be going through the document to high light the area that the City will need to bid out.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Refuse RFP Update-**

Mr. Ashton stated that we have received five (5) RFP's and one (1) company need to be investigated, as they are offering all the services with a 75% difference in the current contract. Councilman Porter stated that we need to have a plan of action in place if Bates decides to end the services, as we are on a month to month contract. Councilman Shivers has requested that Mr. Ashton contact Bates regarding the RFP, or the scope of service they currently provide. Ms. Lanham stated that Ms. Yates met with Bates last year, and they didn't send us a contract. After we had advertised for the RFP they contacted her and she forwarded the call to Mr. Ashton. Mr. Ashton stated that he spoke with them and they questioned if we were dissatisfied with their services. Councilman Yeargin stated we need to have another company on standby for emergency services.

### **Feggans Center Project Update-**

Mr. Ashton stated that the RFP was 75% complete and we don't the plans, the county or the school doesn't have them either. Councilman Shivers stated that we need to pay to have a specification on the building.

### **Metro Business System Update-**

Mr. Ashton stated that we have a court date for Thursday, August 27, 2009 at 2:30p.m. Mr. Sussman has requested that all Councilmember attend the hearing. We need to know what he needs the Council to state, as a preparation process. We need to find out if Toshiba or Xerox has submitted a lawsuit regarding their machines.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

National Night Out, Goodwin Park, Tuesday, August 4, 2009 from 6:00p.m.until 8:00p.m.

Ward I Meeting/Ice Cream Social, Thursday, August 6, 2009 from 6:00p.m. - 8:00p.m., in the Council Chambers

Special Session-Monday, August 10, 2009 at 6:00p.m., in the Council Chambers-  
Budget Review

Councilmember Simms motioned to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded by  
Councilman Porter the meeting adjourned at 7:37p.m.

**Submitted by,**

**Dashaun Lanham**  
**City Clerk**